



April 26, 2021

Honorable John Cornyn
U.S. Senator – 84th Legislature
517 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Cornyn:

As Mayor of the City of Eagle Pass, I would like to extend my full support in the legislation being presented by our Congressional Representatives in the efforts to *The Bipartisan Border Solutions Act* addressing the Migrant Influxes at our Borders with Mexico.

This program will certainly attest to the urgency that small communities along the U.S.-Mexico border are experiencing on-a-daily basis. I do believe that by creating pilot programs to facilitate fairer and more efficient credible fear determinations and asylum decisions, while ensuring fairness in proceedings through provisions to protect access to counsel, language translation services, and legal orientations.

By establishing prioritized docketing of migrants' immigration court cases during irregular migration influx events to deliver legal certainty for migrants., and disincentivize would-be migrants with weak asylum claims from making the treacherous journey to the southwest border. It will also expand legal orientation programming and translation services and protects access to counsel for migrants.

Implements new protections for unaccompanied migrant children released to sponsors in the United States, including regular follow-up and absolute bars on placement with persons convicted of certain crimes, such as sex offenders and child abusers.

Increases staffing to better handle irregular migration influx events, including 150 new Immigration Judge teams, 300 asylum officers, ICE Enforcement and Removal Operations staff, ICE litigation teams, CBP officers, and Border Patrol processing coordinators.

Improves DHS coordination with NGOs and local governments to prevent release of migrants into small communities that are poorly equipped to handle the influx of many migrants. Improves DHS, DOJ, and HHS reporting to Congress to support future legislative efforts in areas in which bipartisan agreement does not yet exist.

Finally, I wholeheartedly support your efforts to establishing this service, and want to thank you for your continued support. Should you have any questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to call on me at 830-773-1111.

Respectfully,

Luis E. Sifuentes
Mayor